

Berlin Planning Board

May 5, 2015

Members Present: Chair Ernie Allain, Tom McCue, Martha Creegan, Mark Evans, Lucie Remillard, Greg Estrella, Richard Cassidy, Lori Langlois

Members Excused: Sue Tremblay, Aline Boucher, and John White

April Minutes: Ms. Langlois made a motion to approve the April minutes, the motion was seconded by Mr. Estrella, motion was approved by the board.

Lot Merger: Ms. Laflamme presented a lot merger application from Matthew Couto, Etal, Trustee. The property is located at Tax Map 119 Lots 326 and 328 and the property address is 649 First Avenue. The board discussed the merger, which is part of a tax deeded property purchase requiring the owner to merge the properties. There were no objections to the merger. Councilor Remillard made a motion to approve the merger, seconded by Mr. Evans. All members voted in the affirmative, motion passed.

Project Updates: Ms. Laflamme reviewed ongoing projects with the board. Ms. Laflamme notified the board of the progress with the Paul Croteau site plan request and indicated that more time was needed for the staff and City Council review of the junkyard licensing request. The issue is still tabled until June.

Ms. Laflamme brought up a zoning amendment going to City Council regarding the allowance of clubs that are membership oriented in downtown. This includes health clubs, fraternal organizations, etc. The zoning ordinance does not currently allow for them in downtown, yet there are already several. She suggested amending the ordinance to allow for them as she felt their exclusion was inadvertent in the 1999 zoning overhaul and ordinance redesign. It will have a public hearing on May 18, 2015 with the City Council.

The upcoming hazardous waste disposal day for the Androscoggin Valley Regional Refuse Disposal District will be held on June 6, 2015.

Ms. Laflamme reminded the board that there will be a NH Listens event the following event related to the perceived opportunity gap of NH residents. This is one of 12 events being held throughout the state to help frame issues to discuss with political candidates in advance of NH primary season.

Other: None

Public Comments: None

Member Comments: Mr. McCue shared updates from the NHOEP conference that was held the previous weekend. He attended the legal update session and found them very well presented and interesting, especially the update on the right to know law, RSA 91:A.

Thanks were given to the members who renewed their terms for another three years, Mr. Allain, Ms. Boucher, Mr. McCue and Mr. White were all approved by the Mayor & City Council at their last meeting.

Planner Comments: None

Adjournment: Ms. Remillard made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Evans, all members voted in favor, meeting adjourned.